STATEMENT BY MINISTER

I. COMMUNAL INCIDENTS THAT TOOK PLACE IN KERALA FROM 19TH JULY, 1992

THE MINISTER ' OF STATE IN THE! MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND' THE MINIS TER OF STATE 'IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M, M. JACOB): Madam, according to the reports received from the Govt, of Kerala, the areas of South of Thiruvananthapuram bye-pass road especially Poonthura, Bhima Pally, Mana-chad, Thakaraparambu, Shankumuk-ham etc. were highly tense because about 3000 persons had marched to the airport on 18 July, 1992 to offer dharna on the Ayodhya issue. The BJP was orgainsing the 'Ayodhya Action Day' on 20 July, 1992. Hence both sides were fully mobilised and highly worked up. On 19 July, 1992, when the members of an organisation were returning after a drill near Shankumukham Road, they were pelted with stones and crackers by some mob. This sparked off violent incidents on 19 and 20 July, 1992 in the costal hamlet of Poonthura. Four persons were injured in stone-throwing and cracker bursts. Three persons were injured in stabbing. Police opened fire at five places injuring three persons. In the stone-throwing and in dispersing violent mobs by use of force, 34 police personnel including two Assistant Commissioners and five Inspectors were hurt. Prohibitory orders u/s 144, Cr. P.C. were promptly clamped in Poonthura, Fort and Thirvallam areas and ValiaThura Police Station limits.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Shankar Dayal Singh) in the Chair]

According to the report, the situation further worsened when some mis. creants entered a religious place in Keshavadasapuram and backed and killed a person in the early hours of 20 July, 1992. The Police had to resort to firing in which three persons were killed. A number of arson cases have been reported in which houses, shops and some vehicles were involved. Two groups separately called for bandh on 21 July in which normal life was partially affected. One person was killed in East Fort area of Thiruvananthapuram on 21 July 1992' raising the death toll to five.

The Army conducted flag march on two occasions in the affected areas in Thirvananthapuram city limits. Additional police forces were deployed for the maintenance of order. Few companies of Special Armed Police of Tamil Nadu were requisitioned by the State Government and deployed. Few companies of CISF and CRPF were also sent to Thiruvananthapuram. tc keep the situation under control. 168 Persons have been arrested and 92 cases registered.

The Minister (Electricity) who is holding the charge of Chief Minister convened a meeting on 21 July 1992 with leaders of political parties in which it was unanimously decided to put down violence at all costs. Relief measures had been arranged to the families affected by the communal violence. The State Government has appointed a member of the Board of Revenue as a Commission of Inquiry to assess and submit the report to Government on the nature of quantum of assistance to be granted to the victims of the communal disturbances. The State Government have further informed that compensation will be paid after the receipt of this report. It has been reported that now peace and normalcy have been restored.

II. COMMUNAL VIOLENCE IN MALEGAON, DISTRICT NASIK MAHARASHTRA ON 19TH JULY, 1998

THE MINISTER OF STATE 'IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, according to the information received from the Government of Maharashtra, on 19th July, 1992 a call for 'Malegaon bandh' had been given by a Janata Dal M.L.A. as per directive from the Babri Masjid Action Com-